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TIME PROPOSED FOR WIDENING ALLEYWAYS

Commissioners May Ask Congress to Extend Limit Because of Housing Conditions.

Disposition of the alley dwellers of Washington is giving the District Commissioners a great deal of concern. Under the law the alleys must be cleared of dwellings within one year after the signing of the proclamation of peace by the President.

There are 2,823 alley dwellings in Washington which will be affected by the law, and a population of nearly 10,000. The Commissioners today indicated they would ask Congress to extend the time for the operation of the law, on account of the housing conditions in Washington. The question was discussed this afternoon at a meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

Widening Suggested.
A survey of the alleys was made some time ago, and it was found that about eighty of them could be prolonged and widened and made into main streets. The widening of the alleys would mean that the houses on one side would have to go.

The alleys are undesirable from many viewpoints, it was said today. Not only are they insanitary, but they are the meeting places for most of the idle men and women of the city. It is also charged that there is hardly an alley in Washington but that screens one or more bootleggers or the operators of illicit stills. The police believe that with the elimination of the alleys much of the crime in the city would be eliminated, because the inhabitants of the alleys feel reasonably safe from the eyes of passersby.

Buildings Insanitary.
The principal reason for getting rid of the alleys is not, however, the lessening of law breaking, it was said at the District building today, but rather to improve sanitary conditions. The alleys' houses are in most cases of the four-room frame or brick type without plumbing.

On account of the small rental the owners are loath to make repairs, and many of the dwellings are in a dilapidated condition. The average rent of the alley houses is \$3.50 a month, and in many of them two families live.

Most of the houses are owned by estates, and District officials and settlement workers have had a hard time finding the owners, who they wanted to make suggestions to improve the sanitary conditions.

WALSH SEES SUCCESS

FOR ERIN PEACE MEET

More than 3,000 persons heard Frank P. Walsh forecast peace in Ireland as a result of the British-Sinn Féin parley, last night at a mass meeting in Catholic University. The affair was under the auspices of the Washington Council, American Association for the Recognition of the Irish Republic.

Walsh declared England is closer to bankruptcy than ever before in history. He owes the United States five billion dollars, and he is a man or woman in England believes this debt should be paid, he said.

A resolution was adopted wishing the Sinn Féin members of the London conference success. It will be cabled to London today. Daniel E. Doran presided at the meeting.

PROPOSALS

TREASURY DEPARTMENT Washington, D. C., October 7, 1921.—SEALED PROPOSALS will be received by the General Supply Committee, Washington, D. C., until 2 o'clock p. m., Friday, October 21, 1921, for furnishing during the period beginning November 1, 1921, and ending December 31, 1921, gasoline, kerosene, linseed oil and fuel oil, in accordance with the Specifications and Proposals for Supplies and Materials for use by the Executive Departments and other establishments of the Government in Washington, D. C. Proposals must be accompanied with instructions and on blanks which will be furnished upon application to the General Supply Committee, Washington, D. C. 3107 WADSWORTH, Acting Secretary of the Treasury.

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Asks Divorce Because Mate Is Addicted To Dancing



Mrs. Grace Van Iderstine.

Mrs. Grace Van Iderstine is asking for a separation from her wealthy and socially prominent husband, because of her sixty-one-year-old husband's addiction to afternoon dances, which he made her attend to the point of exhaustion. Mrs. Van Iderstine, who is the Brooklyn, New York, man's third wife, says dancing has worn her out.

PARENTS DECIDE ON MORE LUNCH FOR CHILDREN

District Mothers' Association to Give Milk and Crackers at Recess.

Milk lunches at the 10:30 recess in addition to the 5-cent hot lunches served school children by the District Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teachers' Association, was decided upon at the first meeting of the season at the Mason House yesterday afternoon.

Because children will get up late and rush off to school without eating much breakfast, Mrs. Giles Scott, father, president, said she thought the introduction of milk-lunches at the early recess would be a fine thing for the children. She urged a lunch of one-half pint milk and two crackers.

The forty branches of the Mothers' Congress will be asked to give their utmost co-operation in the luncheon plan and will be called on to prepare and serve them at the schoolhouse in their neighborhood.

Mrs. L. D. Smoot has been placed in charge of the membership drive; Mrs. Leonard S. Doten appointed editor of the Bulletin, and Mrs. Willoughby Chesley made chairman of the committee on commercial art. The regular monthly meeting, at which representatives of every parent-teacher association will be present, will be held at the Ebbitt Hotel Tuesday at 2 o'clock. Dr. Frank W. Ballou, superintendent of schools, will be the principal speaker.

NATION'S MAIL HANDLERS WILL GREET HARDING

2,000 Postmasters to Lead Drive on White House for Reception.

The joint convention of Postal Associations will be received today by President and Mrs. Harding at the White House, when the President will greet the 2,000 delegates from all parts of the United States, representing 53,000 post offices.

Each of the four associations comprising the Joint Postal Association, was addressed yesterday by Mr. "Chief," Postmaster General Will H. Hays and his staff assistants.

Government officials and members of the Senate and House Postal committees, also addressed each of the four conventions.

Special appreciation was voiced by the delegates of the efforts of Postmaster Hays to "humanize" the department.

In addressing the delegates Mr. Hays, laid special stress on his desire to inculcate the spirit of service into the employees.

"Ours is the biggest business in the United States," he said. "We must make every effort to get the public to visualize the enormous size of the postal service and the tremendous detail involved in the delivery of a letter."

The Postmaster General and his staff met this morning with the heads of the postoffice inspection service to discuss the work of breaking up the mail robber fraternity of the country.

FOUR GIRLS WHO ESCAPED TRAINING SCHOOL CAPTURED

Four girls who escaped last night from the National Training School for Girls by breaking a wire grill on a dining room window, are back in the institution today after an all-night scouting of the Condon road district by police of Sub T precinct. They were captured by Policemen Finley. They are: Anna Wilson, eighteen years old; Isabella Didwell, seventeen; Maggie Gabson, sixteen, and Lucille Payne, sixteen.

1000 IN CAPITAL FOR CATHOLIC MEET

First Annual Convention of New Organization Opened at St. Matthew's Church.

The first annual convention of the National Council of Catholic Women opened in Washington this morning with a mass at St. Matthew's Catholic Church, celebrated by his excellency, the Most Rev. John Bonzano, Apostolic delegate.

Already delegates have arrived from twenty-nine States and it is estimated that fully 1,000 are in town. Headquarters have been established at the New Willard Hotel where the sessions will be held for the week.

Mrs. James J. Hill, in the absence of the president who was called unexpectedly out of town, welcomed the delegates in the opening address at the Willard this afternoon. She spoke a word of encouragement for the newly organized society of Catholic women and predicted a bright future for the activities.

Tomorrow the convention will get down to business and the plans of the society will be outlined. Since the officers now installed have been here but recently elected there will probably be no election of officers at this session. The officers are as follows:

Agnes G. Regan is executive secretary with offices at 1312 Massachusetts avenue northwest; Mrs. Michael Gavin, president, province of New York; Mrs. W. T. Donovan, first vice president, province of St. Louis; Mrs. Arthur H. S. Bird, second vice president, province of San Francisco; Mrs. Teresa M. Molamphy, third vice president, province of Philadelphia; Mrs. Florence Loeber, treasurer, province of New Orleans; Mrs. Harry Benning, secretary, province of Baltimore.

The board of directors consists of: Mrs. Francis E. Slattery, Boston; Mrs. Edward I. Cudahy, Chicago; Mrs. L. E. Mackenzie, Cincinnati; Mrs. Louis E. Mackenzie, Cincinnati; Mrs. James H. Hackett, Milwaukee; Mrs. Arthur Gerbel, Oregon City; Mrs. W. J. Toole, St. Paul; Mrs. Ella M. Weckback, Santa Fe.

MAY CENTRALIZE JOBLESS RELIEF IN COMMITTEE

Blame for Depression Expected to Be Put on Manufacturers and Middlemen.

By H. H. REYNOLDS.
International News Service.

Both manufacturers and middlemen probably will be charged with contributing to the unemployment problem by maintaining prices which have retarded the production and sale of building material, in a report to be submitted late today to President Harding's unemployment conference by the committee on construction.

Recommendations are expected to be made that Secretary Hoover appoint a committee to make effective plans for the operation of government and mayors in the several States and for the "prompt removal of unnecessary or inequitable limitations and restrictions which have retarded construction activity."

After Development.

This body would be known as the committee on construction development, and would be composed of financiers, labor representatives, engineers, architects, contractors and manufacturers.

The committee has reached the conclusion that the prices of many building materials have not yet been reduced in keeping with the trend of wholesale prices on other commodities. The report is expected to urge that manufacturers effect reduction to a "reasonable basis."

To Discuss Methods.

Methods of financing construction work will be discussed by the committee, and a statement is likely to be made that both interest rates and commissions and premiums paid for floating loans are "discouragingly high."

Reference will probably be made to labor costs as one of the outstanding factors in the building and construction situation. It is understood that the committee's report will state that "the employer should not permit the wage of his workmen to go below that which is necessary to provide sufficient to take care of the necessities of life, but also enough to enable the family to educate the children, to provide reasonable comforts, and to permit systematic savings."

KIT CARSON G. A. R. POST TO REOPEN SESSIONS

The first full meeting of Kit Carson Post, No. 2, Department of the Potomac, G. A. R., will be held at Grand Army Hall, 1412 Pennsylvania avenue northwest, at 8 o'clock to-morrow night. A notice, which is expected to increase attendance, is included in the post notes issued today. It follows:

"The elevator at G. A. R. Hall is now in running order. Comrades will now not have to climb the stairs."

U. S. HAS POSITION OPEN FOR PHILATELIST AT \$1,500

If you are a Philatelist or well versed in insect control, or especially adapted in entomology, here's your chance.

An S. O. S. for these "high-brow" professions is being sent out to Washingtonians, stranded on the reef of unemployment.

If you can qualify \$1,500 annually in salary, \$20 per month bonus awaits you.

Police Leaves Stopped.

In an effort to check criminal activities in Washington during the conference on limitation of armaments, police authorities today published an order prohibiting policemen from taking leave between November 3 and 30. This will mean that nearly 1,000 men will be on duty in the District.

FINANCE AND BUSINESS

By B. C. FORBES.

"Another holiday! There are too many of them. They interfere with one's work."

That remark was made yesterday, not by a money-grabbing employer, but by an ordinary employee when reminded that today (Wednesday) was a legal holiday, Columbus Day, in New York State.

Well, now, how about it? Are we in danger of introducing too many holidays into our calendar? Are a great many holidays a good thing for a nation? Or are they a bad thing? Are they beneficial to employees? Or have they a bad effect?

I've just had an association compile figures showing the number of public holidays in different countries. And what, think you, is the thought provoked by the study? It is this: Backward nations go in for more holidays than do progressive nations.

Turkey's Big Holiday List.

Turkey has twenty-six major holidays, to say nothing of minor local ones. Brazil has twenty-eight of one kind or another, and each state adds one or two or three extra for good measure.

Egypt has twenty-three big holidays, and the natives revel in a great many more. China also observes twenty-three national holidays, and excuses are found in different parts for additional local celebrations.

Mexico and Italy each has nineteen holidays; the former also has many local holidays. A routine has twenty-one, and Rumania squeezed in no fewer than two dozen.

In contrast with these, England has only half a dozen national holidays, while Scotland really observes only three general holidays in addition to a local holiday fixed by each community to suit its own convenience.

Including bank holidays, Britain's total reaches ten. But these holidays are little observed by the ordinary people outside of London. Hard-working Denmark gets along with ten holidays, as does Norway. Switzerland officially casts aside work only seven days a year.

Belgium has nine official holidays. France indulges in fifteen, as also does Japan. Canada contrives to get along with nine days off, but Quebec adds a twelfth, religious holidays. Germany's stock exchanges close only eight days every year, but there are quite a number of additional religious holidays celebrated in Catholic Germany, making a total of nineteen altogether.

How About the U. S.?

How about our own country? There are no national legal holidays in the United States, each State fixing by law what days shall be legal holidays.

The average, taking all States, is ten every year, but of late years there has been a distinct tendency to increase the number.

Take New York State.

Not so long ago it had only eight holidays, but first Lincoln's birthday was added (in 1909), and now Columbus Day, October 12, has been tagged on.

And agitation is growing to add two more nation-wide holidays, namely, Armistice Day and Roosevelt Day. Judging from the present temper of the people, the chances are that these extra days will be recognized before very long.

District Heads List.

The District of Columbia heads the list with eighteen—celebrating Panama's fifteen and Porto Rico's third national decades. Also, four days off, and several Southern States treat themselves to a round dozen, including Florida, Maryland and Louisiana. Wisconsin and Oklahoma knock off only seven days a year. South Dakota and Maine get along with eight holidays. Quite a number of States take nine days off, a number ten, and quite a few eleven.

The temptation to lengthen the list of public holidays has usually proved irresistible when a nation has attained a position of great power and wealth and extravagance. The United States is no exception.

The holidays to celebrate notable triumphs over enemies and so forth. A super-abundance of holidays usually marked the beginning and end of national decadence. Also, wherever the ecclesiastics gained domination religious feasts and fasts were ordained in bewildering number.

Apparently the nations that work hardest vote themselves the fewest holidays. Peoples who lose ambition find excuses for introducing a bundance of holidays.

Are we of this country entering on the wrong track in injecting more and more holidays into our calendar?

Have you not noticed that public holidays appeal far more to indifferent and mediocre employees than to those who are genuinely interested in their work and in making headway in the world?

Of course, the be-all and end-all of life is not work or business, but living. But do a plethora of public holidays tend to enrich our lives and strengthen our characters, or have they an unsettling influence on us? Remember that when our forefathers named a few—a very few—public holidays, vacations of one week to one month for the people were totally unknown. Personally I believe in vacations. But I doubt the wisdom of vying with Turkey and China and Egypt in the matter of finding excuses for more and more public holidays.

(Copyright, 1921, by B. C. Forbes.)

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

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Bos. & M.	2 1/2	Q	Oct. 31
Brook. Edis. El. Co.	2 1/2	Q	Oct. 31
Chas. & J. M.	1 1/2	Q	Oct. 31
Dodge St. Pul. Co.	1 1/2	Q	Nov. 1
Gen. Asphalt Co.	1 1/2	Q	Dec. 1
Russell Motor	1 1/2	Q	Oct. 31
Russell Motor	1 1/2	Q	Oct. 31
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